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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 64

COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

Letter dated 29 May 1998 from the Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to refer to the letter addressed to you dated 15 May 1998 (A/52/904-S/1998/398) from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand, the Right Honourable Don McKinnon, concerning the conduct of nuclear tests by India.

I have been requested by my Government to transmit to you the attached statement of 29 May 1998 from the Prime Minister of New Zealand, the Right Honourable Jenny Shipley, concerning the conduct of nuclear tests by Pakistan.

The Government of New Zealand has called upon the Governments of both India and Pakistan to adhere unconditionally to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex issued as an official document of the fifty-second session of the General Assembly under agenda item 64.

(Signed) Michael J. POWLES
Permanent Representative

98-15134 (E) 010698

ANNEX

Press release dated 29 May 1998

PRIME MINISTER CONDEMNS NUCLEAR TESTS BY PAKISTAN

Prime Minister Jenny Shipley today condemned Pakistan's nuclear tests.

"New Zealand denounces these tests unequivocally. We knew that Pakistan was under great provocation from the tests already conducted by India, but this response will only aggravate a tense situation.

"In public statements, and in letters sent recently by me and Don McKinnon to our Pakistan counterparts, we called on Pakistan to exercise restraint. I am therefore deeply disappointed that they have now taken this step.

"New Zealand will be making clear to Pakistan, as we did to India, that these actions are totally unacceptable.

"We will also be consulting other Governments about what steps the international community can take to defuse this potentially dangerous situation.

"New Zealand will once again be strongly supporting all efforts in the United Nations and other multilateral bodies to try to avert a nuclear arms race in South Asia, and to maintain the international norm against nuclear testing," the Prime Minister concluded.

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COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 1 June 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates concerning the underground nuclear tests recently conducted out by India and Pakistan.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yacub Yousif AL-HOSANI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

98-15159 (E) 030698 030698

ANNEX

Official statement issued on 30 May 1998 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates concerning the the nuclear tests recently conducted by India and Pakistan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued the following statement:

The United Arab Emirates, genuinely believing in peace and desirous that a state of security and stability should prevail in the Middle East and South Asia, does not consider that the nuclear explosions recently conducted by India and Pakistan serve the cause of security and stability. On the contrary, they have increased tension in South Asia and have in no way contributed to the resolution of existing problems.

At the same time, the United Arab Emirates considers that the double standard applied by the international community to Israel in exempting its nuclear installations from international inspection and the safeguards system has encouraged the nuclear arms race. The United Arab Emirates therefore urges that all nuclear weapons be completely and absolutely banned, and that the Middle East become a region free of weapons of mass destruction.

The United Arab Emirates appreciates the view of the Pakistani Government that the nuclear tests that were carried out may be considered a legitimate right, and were intended to maintain security and defend that country's interests and territorial integrity. Nevertheless, in view of the historical ties of friendship that link the United Arab Emirates to both India and Pakistan, it calls upon each of those countries to exercise self-control and resume discussions with a view to reducing the level of tension, promoting security and stability in the region and bringing development and well-being to their peoples.

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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 3 June 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to previous letters, the latest being dated 2 May 1998, I have the honour to bring to your attention the following developments regarding the ongoing destruction of the religious and cultural identity of the occupied part of Cyprus.

Although the policy of the Government of Cyprus is to protect and maintain all cultural, historical and religious monuments in Cyprus, this policy is unfortunately not adhered to in the illegally occupied areas controlled by Turkish troops, where my Government has no control.

The latest violations are:

1. The Church of Panagia Evangelistria in the occupied village of Gerolakkos, which has been converted into a mosque;

2. The Church of Agios Mamas, also located in the occupied village of Gerolakkos, which has been converted into a cultural centre;

3. The Church of Profitis Zacharias in the occupied village of Pano Dikomon, which has been converted into a mosque.

As stated in previous letters, the repeated illegal conversions are in violation of the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and the Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Cooperation adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO. It should be reiterated that these acts of destruction are being promoted by Turkey in keeping with its policies and long-term expansionist plans against Cyprus. Moreover it is a further example of Turkey's complete disrespect for other

people's cultural heritage and the religious intolerance practised by that country. Turkey disregards all relevant international agreements, violates fundamental principles of civilization and desecrates what is sacred and holy to the people of Cyprus.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish once again to protest strongly against these wilful and calculated acts of destruction by Turkey which are taking place systematically as part of a deliberate plan to obliterate the island's religious, archaeological and historical heritage.

I would be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) S. ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative